THE

Caledonian Mercury

BEING

A ſhort Account of all the moſt conſiderable News, *Foreign* and *Domeſtic*.

Edinburgh, Monday October 14, 1723.

From the Evening Poſt, October 8.

Since our laſt arrived 1 *Mail from France, and* 1 *from* Holland.

Florence, Sept. 21.

ON the 17th in the Morning, our Archbiſhop declared to the Great Duke that his Phyſicians began to deſpair of his Recovery, that therefor his Highneſs ought to prepare for Death. The Prince expreſſed a great Reſignation, and deſired that Prelate to adminiſter to him the Viaticum, the next Day he grew worſe, the 19th the Impoſthume in his Bladder broke, and that gave him great Eaſe, we hear he reſted very well laſt Night, and is now ſomewhat better.

Prague, October 8. Yeſterday was kept with great Solemnity, the Birth-day of the Emperor, who then entered the 38th Year of his Age.

Genoa, September 25. The freſheſt Advices we have from Florence are of the 21ſt Inſtant when the Great Duke found himſelf ſomewhat eaſier, but without any Hope of Recovery.

London, October 8. Laſt Wedneſday the Dutcheſs of Argyle was brought to Bed of a Daughter. By Miſtake in our laſt ſaid to be a Son.

Preparations are making at Leiceſter-houſe for the Prince and Princeſs coming to Town. The Time of her Royal Highneſſes Delivery being near at Hand.

This Day at Noon S. S. Stock was 111, 1 half. S. S. Annuity 99, 1 half. Bank 129, 1 half. Inkia 135, 1 half. African 11, 5 8ths. York Building 12, 3 qrs.

From the Whitehall Evening Poſt, October 8.

Hamburg, October 12. They write from Berlin, that Prince Eugene was daily expected there.

From

From the Evening Poſt, October 8.

WILLIAM WOOD, *Patentee for coining Farthings and Half-pence for the Kingdom of* Ireland, *having ſeen the Reſolutions of the Committee of the Honourable Houſe of Commons, relating to that Coinage, and humbly conceiving that the ſaid Reſolutions were occaſion'd by a Miſrepreſentation of that Affair, which in the greateſt Degree affects his Credit and Reputation; and not having any Notice thereof, in order to juſtify himſelf, and ſet that Matter in a truer Light, he moſt humbly begs Leave to make the following Obſervations.*

THAT 'tis the Opinion of this Committee, that the importing and uttering Copper Farthings or Half-pence, by Virtue of the Patent granted to William Wood *Eſq; will be highly prejudicial to his Majeſty's Revenue, deſtructive of the Trade and Commerce of this Nation, and of the moſt dangerous Conſequence to the Rights and Properties of the Subject.*

Obſervation. That the importing and uttering Copper Farthings and Half-pence, cannot be highly prejudicial to his Majeſty's Revenue, becauſe it takes nothing from the ſame; but pays a Duty, and ſo far increaſes the Revenue. That it cannot be deſtructive of the Trade and Commerce of the Nation, becauſe very neceſſary for the carrying on and improvement of the Manufactures. And that it cannot be of any dangerous Conſequence to the Rights and Properties of the Subjects, unleſs the ſame were invaded, by a Grant of what is not in his Majeſty's Power to make.

Reſolv'd, *That 'tis the Opinion of this Committee, that the ſaid* William Wood, *and his Accomplices have notoriouſly miſrepreſented the State of this Nation to his Majeſty, in Order to obtain the ſaid Patent.*

Obſervation. That *William Wood*, the Patentee, had no Partner, or Accomplice, nor did he ever make any Repreſentation of the State of the *Iriſh* Nation to his Majeſty, or Miniſtry; and therefore could not be guilty of a notorious Miſrepreſentation, in order to obtain the Patent.

Reſolv'd, *That it appears to this Committee, that under Colour of the ſaid Letters Patent, great Quantities of Half-pence of different Impreſſions, and of much leſs Weight than is requir'd by the Patent, have been imported and attempted to be uttered in this Kingdom.*

Obſervation. That if great Quantities of Half-pence of different Impreſſions, and more Weight than required have been imported, the Patentee is not anſwerable for any but what were made at the Mint. And there were none made there but what were agreeable to the Patent, viz with his *Majeſty's Effigies* and Name or Title, on the one Side, and the Figure of an *Harp* and *Hibernia* on the other Side. And that he has performed his Contract in that Reſpect, he refers himſelf to the Report of his Majeſty's Comptroller, which was delivered to the Lords of the Treaſury, and by them tranſmitted to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, and by him laid before the Honourable Houſe of Commons. And ſince its in the Power of every one to ſatisfy himſelf in relation to the Weight and Fineneſs of the Money, he appeals to all the World, and needs no other *Juſtification.*

Reſolved *That its the Opinion of this Committee, that tho' the Terms of the ſaid Patent had been ſtrictly comply'd with, this would have been a Loſs to the Nation of at leaſt* 140 *per Cent. by the ſaid Coinage, and much greater in the Manner the ſaid Half-pence have been coined.*

Obſervation, That the Terms of the Patent have been ſtrictly complied with will appear in the Paragraph above and that the Opinion of the Nation's loſing 140 per Cent. by this Coinage muſt proceed from a Miſrepreſentation of the ſame, as the following Calculation will make appear, viz.

The Kingdom of Ireland hath Copper Ore, but no Copper of its own, and muſt buy it elſe where.

	l.	*d.*
The Price of wrought Copper there rolled or battered fit for Coinage, is, (as the Patentee is well informed) per Pound Weight.	1	6

Waſte

Waſte and Charge of re-melting the Sciſſel, and working it a-new, (3 Pounds Weight of wrought Copper making 2 Pounds Weight of Money, and 1 of Sciſſel) is at leaſt,	0	1
Charges of Coining 1 Pound Weight of Money agreeable to that of the Tower Mint in London.	0	3½
To be allowed by the Patentee for Exchange, and to the Purchaſer for Circulating, &c. which is neither any Profit to the Patentee, nor Loſs to the Kingdom of *Ireland*.	0	6
Cuſtoms payed in *Ireland* for Importation of the Coin. - -	0	0½
Yearly Payment to the Exchequer, Comptroller, &c. - -	0	1
Allowed to be made of 1 Pound Weight (with a Remedy) of an Half-peny.	2	6

The Patentee's Profit ariſes from making the Coin of his own Copper, &c.

Reſolved, *That its the Opinion of this Committe, that the ſaid* William Wood *is guilty of a moſt notorious Fraud in Coining the ſaid Half-pence.*

Obſervation, That the Patentee is not Guilty of any the leaſt Fraud in Coining the ſaid Half-pence, having complied with the Terms of the Patent, as mentioned in his Anſwer to the 3d Reſolution: And as this nearly concerns the Reputation of the Patentee, he deſires and hopes every one that has an Opportunity, will take the Trouble of trying whether 61 Half-pence or 122 Farthings will not weight 1 Pound, as is allowed him; and theſe are not to be picked or choſen, but taken promiſcuouſly out of a Heap, as the Patent directs. For it is not practicable to make every Farthing or Half-penny exactly to a Weight, but ſome will be ſeveral Grains too light, and others as much too heavy; and therefore to pick out ſome that are lighter, and make a Computation of the Whole from thence is very unfair.

The reſt of this to be in our next.

Wye's Letter verbatim, London, October 8.

THEY write from Charlottemburg, that the King of Great Britain arriv'd there on the 8th Inſtant at Night from Herenhauſen: His Majeſty at Supper found himſelf indiſpoſed, which was imputed to his having travelled that Day 18 German Leagues, which is about 100 Engliſh Miles, without eating; and to the Heat of the Place where his Majeſty ſupped, which was very much crowded: But his Indiſpoſition was very ſoon over, and after Supper his Majeſty led the Queen of Pruſſia to the Drawing Room, and next Day dined in public, and will in a few Days ſet out for Ghore, there to take the Diverſion of Stag-hunting.

'Tis hoped we ſhall in a little Time have the News ſo long detain'd, *viz.* The Redreſs of the Grievances of the Proteſtants in the Empire, and the Opening of the Cambray Congreſs.

As to the Affair relating to the Eſtabliſhment of the Oſtend Company in the Auſtrian Netherlands, 'tis adviſed from Bruſſels, That the General Aſſembly of that Company ſeparated the 7th Inſtant, after having reſolved furthwith to ſend 2 Ships to the Eaſt Indies, and to depute 2 of their Directors, to return Thanks to his Imperial Majeſty for his Patent, and to preſent to him the Lion of Gold, which the Patent obliges them to give to his Imperial Majeſty. Their Actions are riſen to near 7 *per Cent. Prænium.* Mean-time 'tis remarked, that their Actions have no other Price than what the Directors give among themſelves to amuſe the Public: However it be, there's a Talk of taking in a 2d Subſcription, by the Emperor's Permiſſion, of 4 Millions.

The Oppreſſion of the Proteſtants in the Empire is ſtill continued; which may ſhew how little Regard has been had to the Imperial Mandates. Mean-while 'tis believed, that if the Emperor had exerted his Power in the Manner ſo earneſtly ſolicited for by the Kings of Great Britain and Pruſſia, the ſaid Mandates might long before this have been fully executed, and the Religious Grievances accommodated.

Let-

Letters from Cambray of the 15th Instant, speak nothing concerning the Congress, but tell us, that the Domestic of the French Plenipotentiary who was seized with the Sweating Sickness, was dead of it: But a Stop is put to that Distemper, by a Medicine which puts the Patients to a greater Sweat, and cures them.

Some Advices from Constantinople intimate, that the Rebel Meriweys had caused the Consul Gardan, and the English and Dutch Captains to be beheaded, and all the European Merchants to be massacred, except such as fled to Bender Abassy.

These Letters add, that the new Sophi was still at Tauris, and daily raising Forces to oppose the Progress of his Enemies: To which end likewise, his Ambassador at the Court of Muscovy earnestly presses for Assistance from the Czar. This young Sophi is the last of the Royal Family; the Rebel Meriweys having caused the rest of the Royal Brethren to be strangled.

Henry Holt, Esq; is chosen Recorder of the Burgh of Lyme Regis in the County of Dorset, in the Room of Mr. Serjeant Blyde, who resigned that Office, on account of some extraordinary Business that could not permit him to attend the same.

They write from Dover, That Mr. Horatio Walpole sailed thence for Calais on Sunday last, and landed there the same Evening, and set out next Day for Paris.

These Letters add, That Mr. Dandelle the Messenger landed at Dover on Friday last, and set out directly for London.

An Express is daily expected with an Account of the Great D. of Tuscany's Death. Mean-while we are under no Apprehensions concerning the Event, as believing that Things will happily be settled, so as to preserve the Friendship and great Benefit of Commerce with Spain.

The public Credit continues in a very good State: S. S. Stock is at 111. India, 137. Bank 119, 1 half, for the Opening, without the Dividend.

'Tis said the Yatches will sail the latter end of this Month, to bring over the King.

Private Letters from Brussels bring an Account, That Mr. Morrice and his Wife had taken their Leave of the late Bishop of Rochester, and were to set out on their Return to England.

We have just received Letters from Boston in New England, but the Contents must be referred to our Next.

Haddington, October 11, 1723.

Best Wheat 7 *l.* 6 *sh.*	2*d Ditto* 7 *l.*	3*d Ditto* 6 *l.* 14 *sh.*
Best Bear 7 *l.* 8 *sh.*	2*d Ditto* 7 *l.*	3*d Ditto* 6 *l.* 18 *sh.*
Best Oats 6 *l.* 10 *sh.*	2*d Ditto* 6 *l.* 2 *sh.*	3*d Ditto* 5 *l.* 16 *sh.*
Best Pease 6 *l.* 4 *sh.*	2*d Ditto* 6 *l.*	3*d Ditto* 5 *l.* 16 *sh.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE new *Ingredient* for *Improving of Husbandry*, &c. only known and practised in *Scotland*, by JOHN DICKSON, Merchant in *Edinburgh*, who has made *a sufficient Trial* of the several Grains in the Fields, &c. those Two Cropts or Years past, for Proof, to shew the Virtue thereof, as formerly advertised, which was *viewed when growing and standing in the Fields*, &c. by *hundreds* of Persons: But for further Satisfaction to any Person, he selleth the same at Two Shillings and Six-pence Sterling the Pound-weight, with printed Directions how to prepare it. The Pound weight being a sufficient Quantity for one Acre, which being put into a Vessel, containing Twenty five Pints of standing, Rain, or Sea Water, will make up Fifty Bottles of Liquid: But for Conveniency to save Charges to the Leidges, one Man can carry as much as will serve an hundred Acres; and one Horse will carry as much as will serve Twelve hundred Acres. So that the Publick may easily Judge of the vast Difference betwixt the Price in Bottles, and in the Powder.

N. B *There are some new* Upstarts *who pretend to know a* Compound *that surpasses all others, but not making the same appear to the Publick, nor putting it into Practice before my* Advertisement *on the 15th.* September *last, may consequently be concluded to do it at a* Venture, *or* Random, *but the Publick and Leidges will not be so easily* imposed *upon, as to give Credit to the same, till once they put it into Practice, before they pay for it. To be only sold at the said* JOHN DICKSON's *House up* Carrubber's *Close Ravel Stair, opposite to* Forrester's Wynd Head Well, Lawn Market Edinburgh.

The

THE Truſtees for the Creditors of Colonel *James Ruthven*, alias *Johnſton* of *Graitney*, hereby advertiſe ſuch of the ſaid Colonel's Creditors, who have not given in the Vouchers of their Claims to *William Johnſtoun*, the Truſtees their Clerk, that they do now give them in to him, at Mr. *James Baillie* Writer to the Signet, his Chamber, betwixt and the Firſt of *November* next, otherwiſe the Truſtees will proceed, without Regard to the Debts of theſe who fail to give in their Claims to be aſſign'd for the Ends formerly mention'd.

☞ *Upon* Monday *the 7th of* October *Inſtant there ſtrayed from* Lochcoat *in* Linlithgowſhire, *a large white Horſe, a large black Horſe, and a ſmall black Horſe; all three ſhort cut tail'd: A ſmall black Horſe ſwitch tail'd, a handſome black Mare ſwitch tail'd and a brown Stag two Years Old, and were ſeen on* Tueſday *the 8th Inſtant within two Miles* Eaſt *from* Glaſgow. *Any Perſon who ſhall give an Account of the ſaid Horſes or any of them, ſo as they may be recovered to the Owner, or to* George Turnbull, *Writer to the Signet at* Edinburgh, *or to Mr.* Alexander Bell, *Sheriff Clerk at* Linlithgow, *or to Mr.* Hugh Crawford, *Writer at* Glaſgow: *Shall have ſufficiently rewarded for their Pains, and all neceſſary Charges.*

Juſt publiſhed,

The Second Volume of the Works of the famous Sir George M'Kenzie *of* Roſehaugh, *ſo that Subſcribers may call for their Copies when they pleaſe, at Mris.* Watſon's *Shop at the Sign of the* Red Lion.

☞ There was loſt on Tueſday the firſt *October* inſtant, betwixt the Towns of *Kirkaldy* and *St. Andrews*, a green Net-Purſe, with ſome Gold in it, with a Cornelian Seal ſet in Gold, and a Steel Seal, both Coats of Arms the Impreſſions: Any that will give Notice to *Patrick Blair* Keeper of *John's Coffee-houſe*, ſhall have the Gold free, and no Queſtions ask'd, the Seals being of no Value, but to the Owner, the Seals being booked.

☞ *That Mr.* James Craig, *Profeſſor of the Laws in the Univerſity of* Edinburgh, *begins his Colleges on the* Civil Law *upon the Firſt Tueſday of* November *next: as alſo, he will renew his College on the* Inſtitutes *upon the firſt Tueſday of* March *thereafter; and theſe ſtated Times of Mr.* Craig's *beginning his Colleges, being now ſo often advertis'd. 'Tis preſum'd they are ſufficiently known; therefor no Intimation of this Kind is to be expected hereafter.*

☞ Alexander Bayne, *Profeſſor of the Law of* Scotland, *in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, begins his College on* Wedneſday *the 6th of* November *next.*

A COMPOUND for improving of *Land*, which for it's Virtue, ſurpaſſes any Thing that has yet appeared, *impregnating* the *Seeds*, of every Kind of *Corn*, to ſuch a *Degree*, as ſcarce any *ſingle Grain* miſgives, whereby *Half* the Quantity of *Seed* uſually taken will ſuffice; and from that *Half* ſown, an *Increaſe* is to be expected, modeſtly ſpeaking, *Double*, if not *Triple* of what the full *Seed* would otherwiſe produce; and yet is ſo far from weakening, That it nouriſhes the *Ground*, and puts it in a much better *Condition* than it was before; And *operating* not only upon a *rich Soil*, but ſerving in Place of *Dung*, has alſo a ſurpriſing *Effect* upon the *Coldeſt* and *Pooreſt Grounds*, where no *Dung* is uſed: Of ſuch a *Quality* as it may be kept for a Term of Years without loſing it's *Virtue*. Is made by *Robert Geddes* Chirurgeon Appothecary in *Edinburgh*, and ſold only at the *Laigh Coffee-Houſe* there. Price 1 *s.* a Chopin Bottle.

The Method of preparing the Seed by the Compound.

POur a *Bottle* of the *Compound* upon a *Peck* of *Seed*, of any kind of *Corn*, and ſo proportionably *leſs* or *more*, according to the Quantity of *Seed* to be ſown, without any other *Mixture* whatſoever; let the *Seed* be immediatly moved, or turned over in the *Veſſel*, ſo as it may be all equally *wet* by the *Compound*; continue to move or turn it over, at leaſt *once* every *Half-Hour*, for the Space of *four Hours*, that it may drink the *Compound* wholly up; And whenever the Seed is ſo dry, as it does ſeparate well enough in the *Hand* for *ſowing*, let it be *ſown* into the *Ground*; and cauſe *harrow* the *Ground* without Loſs of Time

N. B. The *Inventer* of this *Compoſition* makes it eaſy to try the *Experiment*, confident of the *Virtue* of the *Compound*; he propoſes the *Simpleſt Method* of uſing it. *Mere Pretenders* uſually leave *much* to be done by thoſe they preſcribe to, that when their *Experiments* fail, they may have a *Handle* left them, to throw the *Blame* from off themſelves.

Cuſtom-

Custom-House Edinburgh 4th October 1723.

By the Commissioners of His MAJESTY's Customs.

An Abstract of several Clauses of an Act of Parliament passed in the 8th Year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, *An Act to prevent the clandestine Running of Goods.* The said Commissioners hereby give Notice to all Persons concerned, That this Law will be vigorously executed; and the Offenders punish'd in the Manner directed by the said Act.

ENACTED, That after the 25 *March* 1722, all Persons found passing (knowingly and wittingly) with any foreign Goods landed from any Ship, without Entry and Payment of the Duties from any Coast of this Kingdom, or within 20 Miles of the same, and shall be more than 5 Persons in Company, or shall carry any offensive Arms or Weapons, or wear any Wizard Mask or Disguise when passing with such Goods, or shall forcibly hinder or resist any Officer of the Customs or Excise, in seizing or securing any Sorts of run Goods, shall be adjudg'd Runners of foreign Goods: and (being convicted of the said Offences) shall be adjudg'd guilty of Fellony; and for such Offences, be transported as a Fellon to his Majesty's Plantations in *America*, there to remain for 7 Years; and if such Offenders shall return to *Britain* or *Ireland* before the Expiration of the said 7 Years, they shall suffer as Fellons without Benefit of the Clergy.

Provided, That if any Runner of foreign Goods shall within 2 Months after his Offence, and before his Conviction discover 2 or more of his Accomplices to the Commissioners of the Customs or Excise in *England* or *Scotland*, so as 2 of them at least be convicted of such Offence, the Offender so discovering shall receive 40 *L.* for every Offender so discovered and convicted, so as the Value of the Goods recovered shall exceed 50 *L.* and the Person discovering shall be acquitted of his Offence.

Further enacted, That after the 25th *March* 1722, if any Person shall within 3 Months after such Offence committed, discover to the said Commissioners any Person guilty of such Offence; and being convicted thereof, such Discoverer shall receive the like Reward of 40 *L.* for every Offender so convicted, over and above any other Reward he may be entitled unto by Means of his Discovery; or on Account of the Penalties which shall be recovered for running the said Goods.

Enacted, That the Commissioners of the Customs and Excise in *England* and *Scotland*, shall cause the several Rewards of 40 *L.* to be paid by the Receiver-General or Cashier of the Customs and Excise, in Proportion to the Duties so clandestinely run, upon producing to them a Certificate of the Judge or Justice of the Court, before whom such Offenders shall be tried, certifying his Conviction; and the Money so paid, shall be allowed to the Receiver-General or Cashier, in their Accounts.

Further enacted, That if any Person shall receive or buy any Goods so clandestinely run, before the same shall have been legally condemn'd, knowing the same to be so clandestinely run, and shall thereof be convicted upon his Appearance or Default, or upon the Oath of one or more credible Witnesses, or by the Confession of the Party, by one or more Justices of the Peace where such Offence shall be committed, or the Offender shall be found (which Oath the Justices of the Peace are required to administer) the Person so convicted shall forfeit 20 *L.* one Moiety to the Informer, and the other Moiety to the Poor of the Parish where such Offence shall be committed, to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods, by Warrand under the Hands and Seals of such Justices; and for Want of Distress, every such Offender shall by such Justice, be committed to Prison, there to remain without Baill or main Prize, for the Space of 3 Months.

EDINBURGH:

Printed for Mr. *WILLIAM ROLLAND*: by *WILLIAM ADAMS* Jun. at his Printing-House over against the *General-Post Office*, *Anno Dom.* 1723.